

United States Senate

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Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423

AB 6 (Sub-No. 477X)

Dear Ms. Brown:

I am writing in support of BNSF Railway Company's (BNSF) request to abandon freight service on the Foothill Extension right-of-way, from Arcadia to the San Gabriel River Bridge in Los Angeles County.

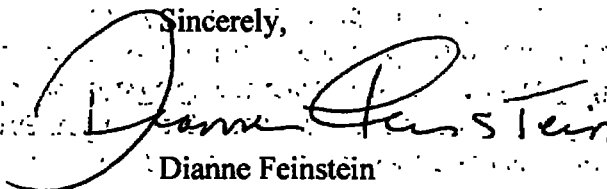
The Foothill Extension from Pasadena to Azusa is a widely supported project in the region that will assist in easing traffic congestion along the heavily traveled corridor. It is estimated by Los Angeles County METRO that this project will create 7,000 jobs and nearly \$1 billion in economic stimulus during the construction period. The line will ultimately carry thousands of daily riders and connect METRO's expanding rail system.

Currently, no rail freight customers are located on this corridor, and BNSF has not handled freight traffic in the area for more than two years. BNSF agreed to abandon their freight service in the requested corridor to allow METRO to complete the Foothill Extension. Approving BNSF's request for abandonment of freight service between Arcadia and the San Gabriel River Bridge will complete the agreement between BNSF and METRO allowing for construction to begin on METRO's Foothill Extension project.

I kindly ask that you give this request every consideration. If I can be of further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me, or have your staff contact Michael Davies in my Los Angeles Office at 310-914-7300.

Thank-you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator